



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Vice Chair Michelle Steel**

**3<sup>rd</sup> District – Orange County**

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[www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov)

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## **California Gasoline Consumption Down 1.3 Percent in July, Fuel Tax Data Says Diesel Consumption Down 2.5 Percent**

**Sacramento** – California's gasoline demand declined 1.3 percent in July when average prices were \$3.82 per gallon, according to fuel tax data released by Michelle Steel, Third District Member of the State Board of Equalization (BOE). Diesel consumption declined 2.5 percent in July when diesel prices averaged \$3.92 per gallon.

BOE's fuel tax report showed Californians consumed [1.23 billion gallons](#) of gasoline in July, a 1.3 percent decrease from the 1.25 billion during the same month last year. In California, average gasoline prices were down 2 cents to \$3.82 in July, a 0.6 percent decrease compared to the average price of \$3.84 per gallon in July 2011 according to the [U.S. Energy Information Administration \(EIA\)](#). Nationally, the [EIA](#) reports regular gasoline averaged \$3.50 a gallon in July 2012, down 21 cents from a year earlier in July 2011 when the price was \$3.71 per gallon.

California's [diesel consumption](#) was 218 million gallons in July, down 6 million gallons or 2.5 percent from a year ago when 223 million gallons of diesel was used in July 2011. California's average diesel prices were down 19 cents to \$3.92 per gallon in July compared to \$4.11 in July 2011. The [EIA](#) diesel retail prices reported the national average price of diesel was down 18 cents, to \$3.72 in July from last year in July when diesel was \$3.90.

For more information on California fuel statistics reports based on fuel tax receipts paid by distributors in California, visit: [www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/spftrpts.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/spftrpts.htm).

State Taxable Gasoline Gallons Report: [www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/MVF\\_10\\_Year\\_Report.pdf](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/MVF_10_Year_Report.pdf).

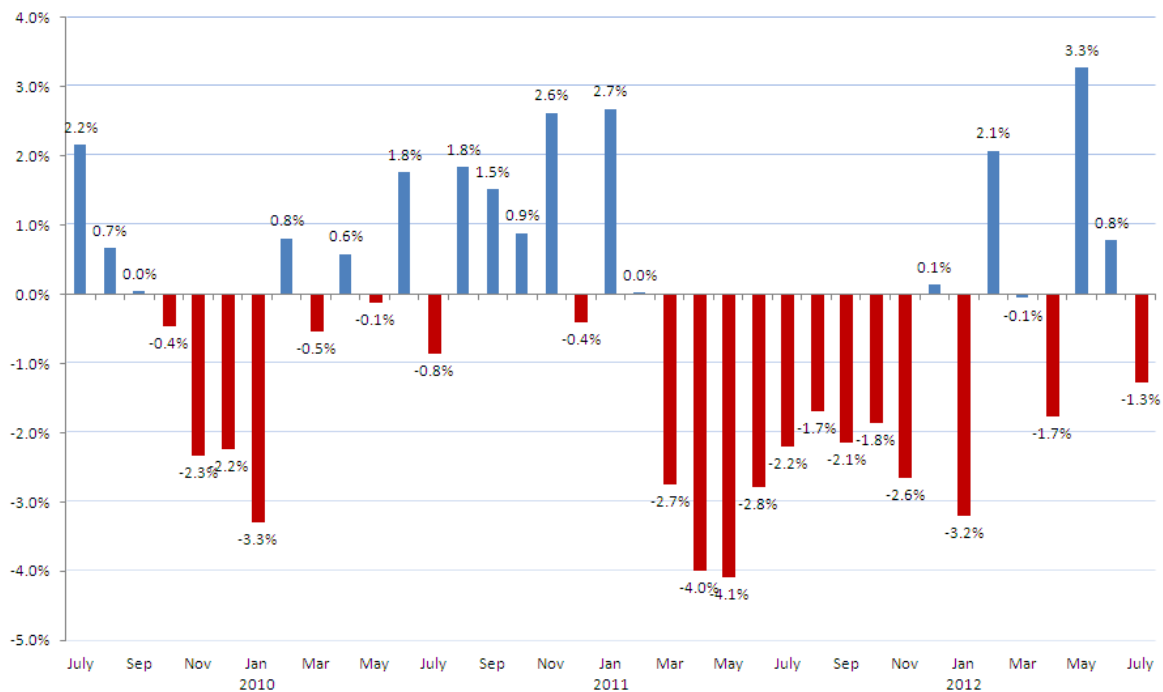
State Taxable Diesel Gallons Report: [www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/Diesel\\_10\\_Year\\_Report.pdf](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/Diesel_10_Year_Report.pdf).

*(See below charts for gasoline and diesel consumption that compare one month with the same month in a previous year. For example, gasoline consumption in the July 2012 is 1.3 percent lower than the July of 2011.)*

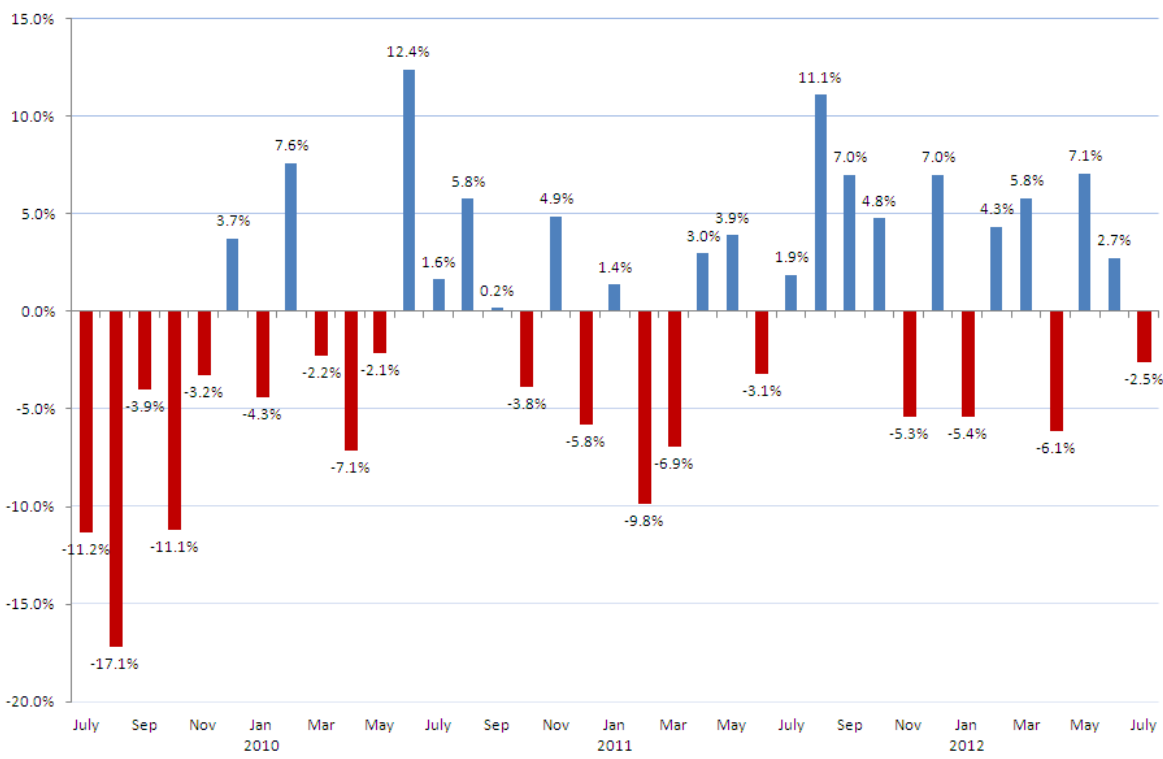
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### Percent Change in Gas Consumption Compared to Twelve Months Prior From July 2009 Through July 2012



### Percent Change in Diesel Gallons Compared to Twelve Months Prior From July 2009 Through July 2012



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Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006 and re-elected in 2010, Michelle Steel serves as *Southern California's elected taxpayer advocate*. In December 2007, Steel discovered the Board of Equalization had delayed the return of millions of dollars in security deposits owed to California businesses. Procedures were changed due to Steel's decisive leadership. Following her investigation, the tax agency refunded tax security deposits to over 5,500 small businesses. To date, over \$100 million in security deposits have been returned to taxpayers.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$53.7 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit [www.taxes.ca.gov](http://www.taxes.ca.gov).

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